

2005 Honorees



*Commemorative Program
April 13, 2005 • Buskirk-Chumley Theater*



The Herald-Times

Volunteer Teen Mediators - *Community Justice & Mediation Center*

The Volunteer Teen Mediators of the Teen Mediation & Education Project is sponsored by the Community Justice and Mediation Center. During 2004, this center recruited and trained eleven area teens in mediation and conflict resolution skills. Nine of those teens are now active in providing mediation education and services for the Bloomington Community. Their nominator, Robin Carrothers, states "It is important to the community to have teens who can be role models for peaceful conflict resolution. Teens reaching out to other teens is the most effective way to address the issues of adolescent violence in our neighborhoods and schools. The group has amazing determination and dedication."

Emily Winter, Chiara Galimberti & Amber Fullenkamp - *Center for Sustainable Living - Community Bike Project*

Emily, Chiara and Amber are a vital part of the Ladies' Night on Sunday evenings at the Community Bike Project, states their nominator, Lance Thurner. "Typically in the past the volunteers of the Bike Project have been young men, as have been the majority of the cyclists that use our services. Ladies Night is our attempt to change this. With their help, we have been changing the way that gender affects the world around us; we have been narrowing the gap between women and tools. They have been instrumental in making the Bike Project more accessible, comfortable and approachable for many of our city's cyclists."

volunteers at the Hoosier Hills Food Bank this year. Beth, Dick and their son Brandon Sexton volunteer three times a week with out Meal Share program and also help with special events throughout the year. The Sextons began volunteering at the Hoosier Hills Food Bank on the 2004 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service. Soon after, the Sextons became vital volunteers with out Meal Share Program. Their commitment to the Hoosier Hills Food Bank is remarkable."

Patrick and Tony Steward - Monroe County Fall Festival

Patrick and Tony were dedicated to helping with the Monroe County Fall Festival for several years. Each year they helped set-up and tear down for this large county festival. They cleaned bathroom trailers, set up chairs for stage seating, cut out letters for poster board signs and picked up trash at the end of the festival. Thousands of people were affected by their commitment and service to the community. Lela Steward, their nominator and mother, believes they were an inspiration to get other children to serve in the community. She writes " While other children were out playing, these boys were hard at work for the benefit of their community!"

Ron & Barbara Thompson - Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Indiana

"Ron and Barbara are true advocates for youth" writes Liz Grenat, who joined with Ron and Barbara's "Little Brother" Ronnie and his mother to submit the nomination. Ron has been a volunteer for Big Brothers/Big Sisters for 10 years. He served 6 years as a school mentor and is in his fourth year as a community big brother. In February of 2005 Barbara became an official big sister to Ronnie. They don't set out to try and be Ronnie's parents; they are just genuine adult role models that lead by example. Ronnie's mother states "If it wasn't for Ron and Barbara, Ronnie wouldn't be going to summer camps, football and Cub Scouts. He'd be stuck here in Crestmont . . . just hanging around." Quoting little brother Ronnie "They made me three promises. The first one is they will never lie to me, the second is they'll never hurt me, and the last and most important is that they will always love me. I will always love them too."

Veteran's History Project - Bud Lynch, Bill Knapp, Mary Jane

Blustein - Monroe County History Center

The Veteran's History Project includes "an amazing group of three individuals that give countless hours to the preservation of veterans' stories" writes their nominator, Lisa Simmons. The project is sponsored through Senator Lugar's office and is conducted on-site at the Monroe County History Center. They have the challenging goal of getting veterans to open up about their war experiences. Sometimes the interview is the first time that a veteran has ever talked about these sometimes painful memories. This group is helping those who have served in the past to leave their legacy behind for the future. Indiana is one of the top states in the production of interviews and Monroe County is one of the top counties in the state.

2005 Herald-Times Heart and Hand Awards

A note to the Honorees . . .

This year, there were ninety three honorees - both individuals and groups - for the Heart and Hand Awards. What a testament to the community spirit which lives and breathes in Bloomington, Indiana!

We commend you for your dedication to our community and the people and animals who call it home. Think for a moment about what Monroe County would look like if this little booklet was empty! It is because of you that your organization is able to have a strong presence in the community. Through your generous commitment of time and talent, you have changed the face of Bloomington, and we thank you.

Bet Savich and Lucy Schaich,
City of Bloomington Volunteer Network

Resources Department strives to improve the quality of life of the growing Spanish speaking population of Bloomington. Many Latino immigrants who arrive here experience isolation due to cultural and linguistic differences and barriers. The Division's volunteers were nominated by staff member Maria File-Muriel, who states "It is with pleasure that I nominate this group of 25 volunteers who ... make Bloomington an example for other towns to follow in terms of integrating, welcoming and serving diverse populations. They volunteer for our radio program (Hola Bloomington), our newsletter (Boletín Comunitario), the Spanish Literacy and Adult Education program (Plaza Comunitaria), and the tax interpretation program."

Martha's House Board of Directors - *Martha's House, Inc.*

Nominator Jodi Tobias writes "When Shelter Inc. dissolved, Bloomington rallied together and quickly established a new agency to fill the gap. Martha's House now takes the lead in providing emergency housing for Bloomington. There remains a high demand for shelter services and Martha's House is a critical component of the continuum of care for the homeless. Without the leadership of the Board of Directors, Martha's House would not be able to serve some of the most vulnerable people in our community. The Board has surmounted many challenges. And while many more challenges are in the future, Martha's House is well on its way to modeling the self-sufficiency desired for its residents."

Dorie Mayfield, Alicia Foster, Chelsea Harris - *SCCAP Head Start*

About Dorie, Alicia and Chelsea, their nominator, Beth Harris, states "They bring a cheerful presence into the classrooms. They show their excitement when working with the children throughout the day. The children are always thrilled when they are present and sad when the volunteers leave for the day. It would be impossible to do all the things we do in our classroom without their help. In their busy lives, they take time to come into a Head Start classroom and make young children feel happy and important. This not only makes them strong as young adults, but they are also becoming informed advocates for their community."

John & Dolores Neumann - *Buskirk-Chumley Theater*

John and Dolores Neumann help to comprise the core of dependable volunteers at the Theater. Sarah Enelow writes "Not only do they know the the Theater backwards and forwards, but they never cease to conduct themselves in a professional and friendly manner while on duty, presenting the best welcoming image of Bloomington's community theater that I could possibly want for our patrons. I can trust them to perform any task that might arise during a performance: managing patrons, enforcing ticket policy, and even handling merchandise. Their willingness to be as helpful as they can be to our house managers and our public is their real contribution."

The Sexton Family (Beth, Dick & Brandon) - *Hoosier Hills Food Bank*

Tony McGovern, who nominated this extraordinary family, writes "The Sextons have become all-star

Mankowski writes "Without their support, there would be no way that Habitat would be able to pull off this feat."

Hilltop Educational Foundation - *Hilltop Garden & Nature Center*

From its early days in the late 1940's Hilltop operated on only one acre of land with a small unheated garden house and storage barn. By 1990 funds from their major fundraising initiative totaled \$459,000, allowing them to construct 2 new greenhouses and a meeting facility.

Nominators Jim Rogers and the Hilltop staff state "It would be difficult to single out and name the dozens of individuals who make up this group. Suffice it to say that their time and dedication have enabled Hilltop Garden and Nature Center to hold its unique position in the Bloomington community, providing our youth and community members with a greater understanding of the beauty and wonder of the living world around them."

Indiana Public Interest Research Group - *Shalom Community Center*

INpirg, which is an I.U. student group, researched and then generated a report about the rising rate of poverty entitled "Communities in Crisis". They then launched a hands-on campaign to recruit volunteers to help operate the Center. They learned about the need to provide bus tickets to patrons of the Shalom Center, so they can get to job interviews and doctor appointments. They then raised \$900 to meet that need. Pam Kinnaman, their nominator states "Their assistance to the Shalom Community Center has made an impact on our services. Their commitment extends to other agencies in the community as well. Having such a broad reach and providing a voice for homelessness and poverty in the community and the state will help make needed positive changes."

Ivy Tech State College Student Leadership Academy - *Middle Way House*

Through advocacy and volunteerism, members of the Student Leadership Academy have become active citizens on campus and in their respective communities. At the beginning of the academic year, each student selects a nonprofit agency at which to volunteer his or her time. They also pick a community service project to work on together. This year they created a fundraising strategy for Middle Way House's "Shoperama" and the City of Bloomington Volunteer Network's "Community Wish List". The group designed a brochure to sell "Gifts in a Jar" to students, faculty and staff. With the funds raised they purchased holiday gifts for the women and children at Middle Way House and items which Fairview School had listed on the Wish List. Their nominator, Cara Huddleston writes "I am inspired by the Student Leadership Academy. They have worked hard to make a positive impact in the community."

Latino Programs & Outreach Division - *City of Bloomington*

The Latino Programs and Outreach Division of the City of Bloomington Community and Family

HONOREES (INDIVIDUALS)

Natalia Allee - *PALS (People & Animal Learning Services)*

Natalia Allee has spent almost 30 hours per month for the last 2 years providing a variety of services for the PALS therapeutic horse riding program, all while balancing a job and going to school. She cleans the barn, prepares the horses for riding, and helps the instructors maintain a safe environment. She is an excellent horse leader and sidewalker for riders during lessons. She has gotten to know many of the 50 riders, 100 caregivers and over 100 other volunteers and staff in the program. Her nominator, Holly Cedar, sums her service up with one word, "dedication."

Miriam Alton - *Girl Scouts of Tulip Trace Council, Inc.*

Miriam Alton has been a Girl Scout volunteer in Monroe County for the past 33 years, anywhere from 20 hours per month to well over 100 hours per month. She has served as a Leader, Troop Organizer, Service Unit Manager and Day Camp Director. Working directly with hundreds of girls and indirectly with thousands more, Miriam has diligently pursued the Girl Scout mission to inspire girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism and service that they may become happy and resourceful citizens. She is the quintessential Girl Scout volunteer. Her nominator, Ann Edmonds, states "For more than three decades she has been a constant source of information and inspiration."

Lori Arnold - *Bloomington Playwrights Project (BPP)*

Lori is currently the volunteer Box Office Manager for the Bloomington Playwrights Project and a member of the BPP Ensemble of Artists. Rachael Himsel, her nominator, states that directors seek Lori out as their first choice as stage manager and technical crew because they know of her dependability and incredible dedication. Not only is Lori a behind-the-scenes volunteer but she is also an actor at BPP. Rachael writes that Lori "embodies the spirit of volunteerism."

Randy Arnold - *Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County*

Randy Arnold almost never misses a Saturday work day as a crew leader at the Habitat for Humanity work site. Randy's patience with the volunteers makes him a key part of Habitat's success. He also spends hours as the faculty advisor for the Indiana University Chapter of Habitat for Humanity, which is currently engaged in an ambitious fundraising project. Brent Puckett, his nominator, states "his dedication to the organization is evidenced by his continued support, physically, spiritually and financially."

Bryan Bailey - *Monroe County Humane Association*

Byron Bailey, the owner and operator of Canine Companions and Patriot K-9 Inc., has volunteered

his time, resources, facilities and staff to the Monroe County Humane Association for nearly 10 years. He regularly offers his facilities to host events such as low cost microchip clinics, animal shelter adoption events, and evaluation sessions for the Delta Society Pet Partners therapy animal program, which reaches hundreds of people a year. In the words of Sarah DeLone, his nominator, "Bryan is always ready and willing to share his time and energy to help maximize the bond between people and animals in our community."

Vicki Basman - *Friends of McCormick's Creek State Park*

Vicki is a civic minded, service oriented person who currently serves as the chairperson for Friends of McCormick's Creek State Park, Inc. She prepares a quarterly newsletter, supports active service sessions and work projects, networks with other organizations, and coordinates committees. Marquita Manley and Dwight Brooks, her nominators, believe Vicki exemplifies the right person at the right time to guide the organization. No matter which project she undertakes, she willingly gives extra time and effort to ensure success. Her gracious and positive outlook gives her the ability to guide individuals and groups to work together to support the mission of ensuring that natural and cultural resources are preserved, interpreted, and enhanced for future generations.

Amy Bernitt - *Martha's House*

Her nominator, Jodi Tobias, writes "Amy Bernitt has worked tirelessly to ensure Martha's House success by being willing to do anything necessary to get the job done. She serves as a model board member and an inspiration to many." When Shelter, Inc. dissolved, Bloomington rallied together and quickly established a new agency to fill the gap. Many social service agencies, Trustees, County and City officials and concerned citizens worked very hard to put this new agency together. Martha's House has now stepped up to take the lead in providing emergency housing for Bloomington.

John Black - *America Reads, RSVP*

Yvonne Aubin, the Principal of Fairview Elementary School, states that "as a member of our learning community at Fairview for the past several years, John has brought hope, determination, and enthusiasm into our building, and especially into Mrs. Foos' second grade classroom, by working alongside at-risk students. Not only does Mr. Black work with our students one-on-one, he also supports us by providing snacks to our students each day in classes K-2. Mr. Black is a wonderful man that deserves recognition for the great work he does at Fairview. He is selfless, enthusiastic and brings hope and promise to our students."

Pat Bookwalter - *Girl Scouts of Tulip Trace Council, Inc.*

Pat started volunteering with the Girl Scouts of Tulip Trace Council, Inc. in January of 2002 for the first National Girls and Women in Sports Day celebration with Indiana University Athletics Marketing. She has been instrumental in bringing together university personnel, community

Crisis Line Volunteers - *Middle Way House*

Colleen Yeakle, nominator, writes "The Crisis Line volunteers at Middle Way House provide an extraordinary service to the Bloomington Community. At Middle Way we provide emergency shelter, support, legal advocacy, information and referrals to victims of domestic and sexual violence; the crisis line is the primary point of contact for all of the services that our agency offers, and the program is staffed almost exclusively by volunteers. We currently have 70 women serving as volunteers and they have given 8,514 service hours in 2004 in support of our agency's mission to end violence against women and children. By sharing their time, they demonstrate to victims of violence that there are compassionate people in the community that are eager to provide them support."

Amy Foust, Dracina Will & Caitlin Tegart - *Girls Inc. of Monroe County*

"Amy, Dracina and Caitlin are true advocates for girls in our community." So states Heather Ludwig and Lee Ann Jourdan, their nominators. There are currently 65 girls in the after school program at Girls Inc, but these 3 volunteers make special time for EACH girl. They listen to and bond with girls that attend Girls Inc to find out what the girls needs are and how they can help. They truly make a difference in the lives of girls each day in their own special way. They help the girls with their homework and sporting events. They also provide emotional and professional stability for the girls, something some don't often receive at home. These volunteers also help with the upkeep of the facility; they are dependable and always willing to go the extra mile.

Friends of McCormick's Creek State Park

The Friends of McCormick's Creek State Park is an active, hardworking group of people dedicated to supporting projects and events that help preserve, restore, manage and interpret the natural and cultural heritage and recreational opportunities at the Park. Their nominators, Dwight Brooks and Marquita Manley state "Over the past two years they have developed their organizational structure, held membership rallies, designed an attractive brochure and completed the restoration of the historic 1930's CC Recreation Hall, which rose from ruin to become a premier shelter house available for use by all park visitors. They work together for the good of the park and the community at large."

Habitat for Humanity Women's Build Committee - *Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County*

Women's Builds take place throughout the country and provide a safe and comfortable working environment for women to learn construction skills and gain a sense of accomplishment through the building of a house. This spring, Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County will construct its fourth Women's Build House. As you can imagine, it takes a tremendous amount of planning to get this project to work. This is where the Women's Build Committee comes in. This group of dedicated women begins planning the build seven months in advance. Their nominator, Rebecca

Bloomington Garden Club - *Hilltop Garden & Nature Center*

The Bloomington Garden Club has a long history of volunteer work in the Bloomington Community, most notably in its long-time service to the Hilltop Garden and Nature Center. Volunteers from the Garden Club have contributed untold hours to further Hilltop's mission. Their volunteer hours over the years have included mentoring children, promoting program enrollment at local schools, working at the gardens, and providing staff and financial support to the Center. "We, the staff and supporters of Hilltop believe the Bloomington Garden Club worthy of recognition for their lifetime of service."

Bloomington High School North Habitat for Humanity Chapter -

Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County

The Bloomington High School North Chapter of Habitat, which has been in existence for 6 years, works in cooperation with the Monroe County affiliate by providing them with volunteers, fundraising, and increasing community awareness. Their nominator, Americorps Volunteer Sean Price writes "BHSN students make a difference in our community. Each member impacts the chapter through their own involvement. They create a positive atmosphere whenever they are around and inject new life into our organization. The unselfish and generous way in which they give of themselves is not just an example for all young people, but characteristics we all should aspire to have. They have become an essential element of our organization as we move into the future."

Marge Brumleve & George Ringer - *Shalom Community Center*

Marge and George are both members of St. Charles Catholic Church and come to the Shalom Center as representatives of their parish. Pam Kinnaman, their nominator writes "Every Monday morning from 8 to 10 a.m., Marge and George come in for at least two hours to help prepare and clean up after our breakfast meal. They are two of the most dedicated volunteers we have. They have been helping us since the Center opened in 2000 and only miss volunteering when they are sick or on vacation."

Collections & Exhibits Committee - *Monroe County History Center*

The Collections & Exhibits Committee is comprised of many members, with numerous and detailed duties. Not only are they responsible for assessing what to retain, of all the new incoming donations, but they also help with the upkeep of all pieces in various collections, and they change the rotating exhibits. Lisa Simmons, their nominator, writes "The hours they give are uncountable, the people they impact are too numerous to know, and their importance is too valuable to fully enumerate."

resources and Tulip Trace employed staff to start what was originally a short-term project. This event has blossomed into a long-term collaboration resulting in pre- and post-season opportunities for athletes resulting in many sports related activities for Girl Scouts. Pam Gilliatt, Pat's nominator, notes that "because of Pat's vision and energy, she has initiated, planned and managed several local community service projects."

Edith Bridge - *PALS (People & Animal Learning Services)*

Edith is a volunteer stable manager for the PALS program. She gets the barn ready for lessons and coordinates other volunteers while overseeing the function of the barn. She makes sure horses are groomed and tacked in time for lessons, directs horse leaders and side-walkers to the appropriate lessons and insures the barn is kept clean. Holly Cedar, her nominator, feels that the program would not be able to function appropriately without her help. She fills the gaps between the director, riding instructors, the volunteers, and the riders. Her presence is essential because she sees that safety is maintained and all loose ends are taken care of immediately, before a problem can arise. States Holly, "Edith's love and commitment to the program is a keystone in our community."

Hannia Burke-Agüero - *Mujeres en Conexión*

It started as a meeting in her home and grew into Mujeres en Conexión, (Women Connected) a monthly meeting at a local church. Hannia has devoted so much of her life to recognizing the needs of women like herself to be able to share memories, stories and to display their talents. Jane Walter, Hannia's nominator, says "she is a treasure for the women of MEC and for Bloomington. Hannia has voluntarily poured her hand, heart and whole self into helping local Spanish-speaking women empower themselves." At the same time she has helped Bloomington better integrate Spanish speakers into its diverse community.

Susie Carter - *PALS (People & Animal Learning Services)*

Susie is the stable manager and volunteer coordinator at PALS. She prepares the barn for lessons and oversees the volunteers on her shift. She ensure the horses are groomed and tacked in time for lessons and is responsible for making sure there are enough volunteers at the barn. This is important because each rider needs 2 side walkers and a leader and without enough volunteers, lessons would not be possible. Holly Cedar, Susie's nominator, says that she gives an incredible 40 hours a month of her time volunteering at PALS!

Jon Clark - *Hoosier Hills Food Bank*

Jon began volunteering last year with his service fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega. Once-a-month volunteering has now turned into several days a week. Not only does Jon volunteer at the Hoosier Hills Food Bank but through the Middle Way House he spends time with children who live at "The Rise!", the Middle Way House transitional living facility. Tony McGovern, who nominated Jon, says

Hoosier Hills Food Bank can always count on Jon to be on time and ready to help out with any project which arises on any given day. With his drive and determination to assist the hungry in his community, Jon has helped to feed thousands through his volunteer work at the Hoosier Hills Food Bank.

Kathy Cook - WFHB Community Radio 91.3/98.1FM

Kathy is the volunteer Assistant Producer of WFHB's Daily Local News show. This includes writing and reporting on stories for the daily broadcast, anchoring the show, and preparing pre-recorded segments such as interviews and feature stories. Kathy manages to overcome the time limitations of being a full-time high school student with many extra-curricular activities and still manages to dedicate enormous blocks of time to WFHB, as much as twenty five hours a week during election season. Chad Carrothers states "Kathy is hands-down the best volunteer our news department has ever had, and we often take it for granted that she's only seventeen years old. She has done more for her community in just a few short years than many people do their whole lives. Her energy and determination revitalizes our volunteer base in a way I've never seen - she is a natural leader who, more than anything, wants to help people."

Robert Crum - Spencer Senior Center

Little did Robert Crum know when he began attending activities at the Spencer Senior Center, that one year later he would find himself with the title of Volunteer Director. Robert started out by cleaning up and reorganizing the Center to provide more space for activities. He then tackled the financial problems the Center was faced with. It now makes a profit in addition to providing more activities. In 2003, there were 40 members; in 2004 there were 109 members! Robert was nominated by the Area 10 Agency on Aging, which stated that "he has a giving heart and strong desire to enrich the lives of the elderly. His presence at the Spencer Senior Center has turned it around 180 degrees, transforming it from a sleepy small-town senior center to a thriving one that offers a range of activities meeting the needs and interests of Owen County seniors."

Harriet "Happy" Curts - Monroe County CASA

Happy has been a CASA volunteer since March of 2000. Since that time she has represented 9 children ranging in age from a teenager to an infant. Before becoming a CASA volunteer, Happy was a reading specialist for MCCSC for 20 years. She worked with many troubled children and families. Sandy Rampley, her nominator, stated "Happy, more than most volunteers, knew what she was facing when she became a CASA. In the midst of the most awful situations you can imagine, Happy exhibits an amazing respect for the dignity and humanity of parents and children. Happy has always had a heart for children."

Vickie Davison - The Franklin Initiative

Nominator Erica DeSantis writes "Whenever Vickie is approached to support local schools and the

HONOREES (GROUPS)

Frank Albert & Bob Muldoon - Area 10 Agency on Aging

The Dynamic Duo!! Frank and Bob are an unstoppable team. Many elderly people would live more difficult lives without them. Since 1994, they have been a part of the "handyman" program at Area 10 Agency on Aging, which nominated them. One of Area 10's primary goals is to assist the elderly in maintaining their independence by helping them to remain at home. Building ramps, installing grab bars, plumbing and electrical work are just a few things the Duo might complete on Tuesdays. Both are members of the St. Charles Catholic Church and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. "We know we'll run out of steam" states Frank....but until that happens, the Dynamic Duo will continue installing ramps, bars, and anything else that may be needed.

Alpha Xi Delta - Crestmont Boys & Girls Club

For the past 8 years, members of Alpha Xi Delta sorority of Indiana University have volunteered at the Crestmont Boys and Girls Club, spending countless hours, hosting fundraisers, planning special events, and purchasing and donating items to better the Club. Rebecca Linehan, their nominator, writes "Without their assistance, members of the Club would not have the opportunity to experience some of the finer things in life and the Club could possibly no longer exist without their generous monetary contributions. They deserve to be honored and commended for putting a smile on a child's face and also being there for the Club."

Bloomington Board of Realtors - Community Kitchen of Monroe County

Bloomington Board of Realtors members volunteer a great deal of time at the Community Kitchen. Tim Clougher, their nominator states "This organization supports the work of several agencies in Bloomington and Community Kitchen is fortunate to be one of them. In 2004, the group donated over \$6,000 and logged over 400 hours of volunteer time. The patrons and staff of Community Kitchen extend our gratitude to this organization for going above and beyond in their service to the Bloomington area and for helping out the community through the Community Kitchen."

Bloomington Circus Collective

The Bloomington Circus Collective, unbrellaed under the Center for Sustainable Living, is a coalition of creative and performing artists who use their talents to educate people about social and environmental justice. Their nominator, Laura Jesseph writes: "This dedicated core of volunteers believe in energizing and supporting the activist community in Bloomington by providing celebratory artistic spectacles, which captivate curiosity and attention from the general public and the media, as well as bring a smile to the faces of many of the most hard working and dedicated volunteer activists in our community."

forted while in trauma. That was over 12 years and 7500 bears ago! Ferne also demonstrates her love for children by volunteering at WonderLab, the Salvation Army, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and 4 H. Her nominator, Shalini Sarin noted that Ferne's lifetime hours total in excess of 6,000. Says Ferne "Helping children keeps me young. I just love knowing I can send them hugs when they need them most."

Leon Thompson (In Memory) - Monroe County YMCA

"Leon was a spirit lifter." "He guided me through many changes in my life." "He was so full of wisdom and one-liners. He loved to laugh." "He is missed very much and we feel his absence". "My backyard is full of gifts from Leon - irises, peonies, lavender . . . These beautiful gifts will return each year and remind me of my dear sweet pal, Leon Thompson." These are just a few heartfelt comments from YMCA staff who contributed to the nomination submitted by Kim Martin. Leon started volunteering at the YMCA over five years ago, wanting to occupy his time helping others. He played an instrumental part in beginning the garden camp, and enjoyed visiting the garden and working with the children.

David Walter - Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA)

David is dedicated to shaping the face of Bloomington. He spends countless hours each week reading planning regulations and participating in meetings to ensure that land use in the community is planned, safe and cohesive. He has served as a neighborhood leader for many years, bringing neighbors' questions and concerns to city, county, business and non-profit entities. In 1998 he became a founding member of the Council. Through his work with CONA, David dedicates his time educating others so that they may make a difference in the physical world around them. Ange Cahoon, David's nominator says that while few today may notice David's efforts, future generations will thank him for preserving the face of Bloomington.

Judy Witt - Teachers Warehouse

Judy volunteers as the President of Teachers Warehouse. Her nominator, Phil Meyer, states that it is through her vision, her hard work, and her persistence that the Warehouse became a reality. In 2002, when Judy was the president of the Bloomington Rotary Club, she began envisioning a way to provide teachers in Southern Indiana with free school supplies after she saw a Herald-Times article about a free store for teachers in Cincinnati, Ohio. Since then, the three Rotary Clubs of Bloomington, as well as individuals and businesses, have generously contributed time, product, and funds to the Teachers Warehouse Project. In the eight months that Teachers Warehouse has been open, the shopping of 115 teachers has had an impact on over 1,800 children in Monroe County.

children and families they serve, she not only accepts the challenge, but goes above and beyond the call of duty. When there is a need, she takes the initiative and gets the job done. She doesn't seek praise or glory. When asked what motivates her to give so selflessly, she states "I love teachers! They do so much for so many with so little. They make such a difference!"

Josh Dodds - City of Bloomington Parks & Recreation Dept.

Josh is a senior at Bloomington High School North and the Team Captain of his football team. Kim Ecenbarger, who nominated Josh, feels that his involvement with sports has instilled a sense of commitment and responsibility that clearly carries over into all aspects of his life. When asked why he chose Parks and Recreation as the service site for his internship class at North, Josh replied "I'm a product of the Parks and Rec system . . . my helping out here is kind of like paying everyone back for the great times I had!" Kim feels this mature response sums up the character of this young man.

Melinda Doster - PALS (People & Animal Learning Services)

Melinda volunteers not only her time but her horse as well at PALS, both as a side walker and leader in lessons. Melinda is a very skilled horse leader which is an asset to PALS and the riders. She is also on the Public Relations Communications Committee and the Advisory Board at PALS. Her nominator, Holly Cedar, writes that "Melinda has a warm and caring personality. She cares about the riders and devotes much of her time and energy to the program."

Sujata Dutt - SCCAP Head Start

Sujata Dutt volunteers at the South Central Community Action Project's Head Start Program in the Tulip Tree classroom. Sujata helps the teachers with projects and classroom activities, plays and reads with the children and even accompanies the classroom on field trips. Sujata shares her unique background and experiences from her native homeland of India with this multicultural classroom. Sujata's experiences at Head Start have led her to want to pursue a Child Development Associates degree from Ivy Tech. Julie Johnson, her nominator, is confident that she would be a wonderful addition to the early childhood education field.

Hilda Dyer - RSVP

Hilda Dyer was nominated by the new RSVP Director, Shalini Sarin. Hilda started volunteering when her son, Gary, was six years old and has not stopped for the past 48 years. As her sons grew up and needed less of her time, she took to volunteering with a passion. For 25 years she volunteered up to 40 hours a week with the Red Cross. Hilda has served with the AARP for the last 12 years where she became an instructor. At 83, Hilda continues to serve our community with a vivacious energy. She is a member of an entertainment group called "Rhythm Gals" that visits various community nursing homes. She volunteers at the Bloomington Area Arts Council, Monroe County Library, WonderLab, YMCA, and for many other community events and services. In

the midst of raising two sons (Gary and Michael) alone, Hilda has volunteered in excess of 15,000 lifetime hours and found time to travel the world.

Brittney Epley - SCCAP Head Start

Volunteering at Head Start began as a service learning component of a class in which Brittney was enrolled. Brittney's interest in volunteering at Head Start stems from her past experiences interacting with children, working as a cabin instructor at a children's camp and as a youth Sunday School instructor at her church. Brittney does so much for the children at Head Start....from reading to them, helping plan lessons to interacting one-on-one with them. She even helps serve meals and puts the children down for their naps. Stacey Jones, her nominator, acknowledges and thanks Brittney for her devotion and caring attitude.

Brooke Epley - SCCAP Head Start

Brooke is a volunteer at the Lindberg Street location of the Head Start Program. Stacey Jones, her nominator, writes that Brooke has not just impacted the children at Head Start but the teachers as well. Many of them were hesitant to allow volunteers in the classroom. They feared that students would lack responsibility and might not truly care about the work in which they participated. They were proven wrong! Brooke also impacted the children she worked with greatly by her encouraging words and her soft manner, which allowed many children to grow socially. Brooke shows a true passion for working with children and meeting the needs of the community.

Sarah Fischer - Monroe County CARES

Sarah has been a member of the Monroe County CARES Board for over 9 years. CARES is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to coordinate and support local efforts to prevent and reduce harmful involvement with alcohol and other drugs. She has also been an active volunteer in the Richland Bean Blossom School Corporation as a PTA volunteer and officer, fifth grade math tutor, textbook review committee volunteer and various other volunteer activities. Nancy Woolery, her nominator, states "She has been a mentor to me through her example of strong organizational and leadership skills with the CARES Board. And her time and commitment to tutoring children who have difficulty with science and math in school is truly invaluable."

Kathy Freeman - American Diabetes Association

Kathy became involved with the American Diabetes Association when her nephew was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes. Wanting to help find a cure for this chronic illness, Kathy became an avid fundraiser for the cause. She has served on the Walk committee for the past four years, seeking donations for food and all the prizes needed to support this event. Her nominator, Jan Boneho, states that "Kathy has been a most successful committee member because of her enthusiasm, determination, and genuine caring."

to address the needs of education, literacy and parent involvement. Stacey Jones, Maya's nominator, states that "Maya is driven, possesses a positive attitude, and demonstrates a deep passion for helping children."

Dorothy Sowell - Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County

Dorothy began volunteering for Habitat for Humanity in 2001 when her church co-sponsored a Habitat house. Dorothy came out every Saturday to help with whatever task had to be done. Dorothy quickly caught the "Habitat bug" and decided to continue working with Habitat, even after the commitment to her church was finished. Over the past four years, Dorothy's involvement with Habitat deepened. She became a crew leader and then an on-site partner. For the past two years she has served as a team leader and raised more than \$6,000 for the "Women's Build". Dorothy has been fundamental in helping organize a "Faith Relations Team" to spread the word about Habitat. Rebecca Mankowski, Dorothy's nominator, says that Dorothy has helped Habitat fulfill its mission and has affected hundreds of people in the community by her dedication and tireless work for Habitat.

Shirley St. John - Shalom Community Center

Shirley was a key force in the planning, development and mission of the Shalom Community Center and has been volunteering there for at least 50 hours per month for the last 5 years. She was enthusiastically nominated by Pam Huggins, a member of the Board. Pam says "If you walk through the center with Ms. St. John, you note how well loved she is by the guests. They are very clear about her caring commitment to each of them as individuals and the future of the center as a whole. She has incredible values - caring for the social welfare for all people in the community. This is one special woman!"

Geneva Stevens - Bloomington Hospitality House

Each month Geneva spends endless hours planning birthday parties for residents, who greatly enjoy them. They get to sing old time songs, enjoy birthday cake and they each receive a special gift from Geneva. She always brings smiles to the faces that call the Hospitality House home! During Monroe County Fair time, Geneva helps residents with craft projects. Many of the residents would not have been able to complete projects without Geneva's help. It brought the residents great joy when they received blue ribbons for first place finishes at the fair. Alicia Limeberry, Geneva's nominator, believes Geneva's generosity and kindness are immeasurable and that Geneva has shown her commitment to helping others by her consistent presence for more than 10 years.

Elsie Ferne Stout - RSVP

When she found there was a pressing need to comfort sick children, Ferne started making bears and has not stopped since. Sewing 6 inch bears from scraps of plaid, polka dots, prints, stripes and pastels - hoping that every child who receives a bear will feel less afraid and somehow more com-

service. Julia Copeland, his nominator states "It is a pleasure to work with John. His frank, easy-going personality, coupled with his talent and high level of musical achievement, make him a wonderful example for younger players."

W. Phillip Saunders - *Shalom Community Center*

Phillip has been volunteering with the Shalom Community Center for the past five years. When Shalom was just getting started, Phil rallied support for it in the First United Methodist Church, of which he was a member and in which Shalom is housed. Phil is a member of Shalom's Board of Directors and its Finance and Development Committees. His nominator, Pam Kinnaman, writes "Phil's impact shows directly in the work that he does. Because he has helped us find sources of funding, he has directly impacted the thousands of people whom we served. His passion and desire for change is contagious in the way he works with staff and other volunteers."

Paul Schoonmaker - *RSVP - Area 10 Agency on Aging*

Paul is a full time volunteer, volunteering with a number of community organizations and events in the last 13 years. His nominator, Shalini Sarin writes "He has volunteered an estimated 7,500 hours over this period and has impacted innumerable lives. His foremost passion is his association with the Area 10 Agency on Aging's Food Pantry. Every week he picks up 150 to 200 pounds of food at the Hoosier Hills Food Bank, transports it and stores it at two locations. Then he bags the groceries and distributes it to families door to door. Paul is an inspiration to all."

Andrea Smith - *Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Indiana*

As an Indiana University SPEA graduate student, Andrea has been a model volunteer. For two years she has been a friend, companion, and Big Sister to twelve-year old Kindra. As a Big Sister, Andrea is exemplary. She meets weekly with Kindra and works closely with Kindra's guardian and the case management staff to better meet Kindra's needs. Andrea has provided access to a variety of experiences for Kindra, from art projects, to sports, baking, homework and involvement with Girls' Inc. Andrea leads by example and has become a very important friend and resource to Kindra. Her nominator, Mark Volland writes "Andrea has a strong commitment to making the world a better place and actively seeks to put this commitment into action. She is making a difference and our community is better because of her passion, commitment and excellence."

Maya Sommerville - *SCCAP Head Start*

Maya is majoring in Sociology at I.U., also earning a certificate in nonprofit management through the American Humanics program. Maya began volunteering at Head Start in 2004 as a part of her curriculum and has been an invaluable volunteer ever since. The teachers, staff and especially the children feel Maya's presence is immeasurable! She shows a true passion for service and volunteerism. She loves working with the children and has the gift of reaching children on their level and meeting their needs. Maya is currently working on an initiative for the Head Start program

Sarah Elizabeth "Libby" Frey - *Hilltop Garden & Nature Center*

Libby's 50 years of service to Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, which nominated her, can only be fully appreciated in the context of her outstanding achievements as an individual. Throughout her life she has been a fiercely dedicated, tireless advocate for preserving Indiana's natural heritage. The staff of Hilltop Garden and Nature Center state that even in her 80's, you can find Libby on a warm sunny day at Hilltop as early as 6 a.m. You can sit with her and learn of her adventures to protect the environment, you can learn every detail of daffodils and daylilies, weeds and insects. However, what you learn mainly is true volunteerism and love of the Earth. Libby has been an environmental watchdog over the community's toxic chemical contamination for three decades. She filed a suit in the mid 80's to stop the toxic waste incinerator from being built. She has also been at the forefront of efforts to require the responsible parties to perform a thorough and complete cleanup of hazardous waste threatening the public health. For over 15 years and through numerous appeals, she was repeatedly denied the right to present her case. Finally, on April 6th of this month, the Federal 7th Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago ruled that she is entitled to present her case in court. In the judge's words "After a very long wait, the citizens of Bloomington are finally entitled to their day in court."

Linda Gast - *Area 10 Agency on Aging*

Linda volunteers at the Area 10 Agency on Aging working at the Endwright Center, a facility that provides various programs for older adults. Linda has volunteered in various areas, in the fitness program teaching people the proper way to do weights and stretch correctly, programming cardio equipment, completing workout sheets . . . even helping some people get on and off of the equipment. She has formed a fabric arts group to teach techniques in quilting, sewing and other venues within the art of using fabrics. Sharol Laczkowski, her nominator, tells us of another important service Linda provides - supervising the Endwright Center during the month of September so the director can focus on the Senior Games preparation. Sharol concludes her nomination by saying she believes Linda's positive attitude provides the driving force behind many people being able to look forward to another day.

Mary Girard - *Monroe County Humane Association*

Mary joined the MCHA board in 2002 serving as President during 2003/2004 while also serving on many different committees. Sarah DeLone, her nominator, feels that Mary has made Bloomington a better place for humans and animals not only by her active volunteering but also by her wonderful sense of purpose and strong understanding of MCHA's role in the community.

Dawn Gray - *Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County*

Brent Puckett, Dawn's nominator, wrote that Dawn took her expertise as an architect to help design the blueprints for houses for Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County. "When it comes down to designing challenging home ideas, like the straw bale house, Dawn excels!! She is a pro-

fessional who devotes a lot of her time doing this non-profit work. Giving her time and devotion directly saves our affiliate countless dollars." Without Dawn, Brent states, "they would be left with a giant hole that would be nearly impossible to fill."

Dr. Dale Hall - Area 10 Agency on Aging

Dr. Dale Hall has filled his professional and volunteer life with efforts to educate and serve others. According to the Area 10 Agency on Aging, where Dr. Hall has volunteered for over 10 years, he is "humble and modest about the work he does for Area 10." Dr. Hall has been an active member serving the Bloomington community for more than four decades. He has been honored as the Older Hoosier of the Year for his record in community service. At Area 10, Dr. Hall had a major influence on the original "Computing for Seniors" classes begun by Area 10 and now offered by Ivy Tech where he also volunteers helping seniors gain computer skills so they can better keep in touch with family and stay active in the community. Dr. Hall is always willing to give time working with people.

Ann Hart - Monroe County Humane Association

Ann Hart has only been a volunteer with the Association since June 2004. However, being a relatively new volunteer has in no way hindered Ann's ability to make a huge impact. Ann has helped the department overcome major changes including moving into and organizing a new office and welcoming a new executive director. Sarah DeLone, her nominator, states that Ann is one of those people who work behind the scenes, without asking for recognition. She does the job because it is needed and because it will help.

Rita Hefron - Arlington Heights Elementary School

Rita's impact at the Arlington Elementary School is remarkable - from shelving books to organizing and setting up fantastic theme displays - many of the displays are homemade! Rita, a retired teacher, has been volunteering at the school for the past five years for approximately 16 hours per week. Rita is a wonderful reader to the kindergarten class and is capable of filling in as teacher when needed. "Her professionalism and understanding of students and reading make her a library assistant extraordinaire." states George Turchyn, her nominator.

Robin Hong - Musical Arts Youth Orchestra

Nominator Julia Copeland feels that Robin's positive influence has affected some 120 music students, not to mention the hundreds of audience members who have been exposed to both Robin's music and her effect on the other musical performers. Robin has been dedicating her time for the past two years working with Youth Orchestra, not only coaching the younger players but also playing in quartets with them. She does this with her already overflowing schedule of rehearsals and performances at school. Robin gives her time without expecting any monetary return; she gives her time because she loves music.

Mary Beth O'Brien - Monroe County CASA

Mary has been a CASA volunteer since November 2001. Since that time, she has represented four children. Her nominator Sandy Rampley writes "She has been instrumental in setting up safeguards for children. Mary is everything an organization dreams of in a volunteer. She is competent, responsible and thoughtful. In the three and a half years Mary Beth has been with the CASA program, we have come to trust her judgment implicitly. She is a great volunteer and a lovely young woman."

Pat Overman - RSVP - America Reads

Pat is in her fifth year of tutoring for America Reads RSVP and has helped eight individual children develop the reading skills necessary for success - as well as working on language arts skills with entire classes. She impacts the lives of 150 additional children weekly by volunteering in the Highland Park library. Her nominator Bonnie Vesely writes "She has had a lifetime of serving people who range from infants to the elderly, and she has worked to pass it on."

Shirley Payne - Buskirk-Chumley Theater

"Shirley is an incredible new addition to the Buskirk-Chumley family, having just started ushering within the past five months. Yet already she shows the same kind of ownership and attachment to the theater that our longer term volunteers demonstrate. She truly came into our space and adopted it as her own, something that any community theater should strive to achieve. Just speaking to her about her favorite shows and knowing that she is an advocate for the theater is enough to make her stand out as a real benefit to the Buskirk-Chumley" writes Sarah Enelow, her nominator.

Kathy Rubeck - Boys & Girls Club of Bloomington

Kathy has served the Boys & Girls Club of Bloomington for at least 15 years in a number of different capacities. She has helped raise at least \$350,000 for the Club. As a member of the Auxiliary she was a founding organizer of the annual Strawberry Festival and many other events. The funds Kathy helped raise have kept the Club going. It is hard to put an actual figure on the number of children Kathy's fundraising has impacted, but it is substantial. And it's not just the kids, it's their families, their teachers, the community as a whole, that have benefited from her sustained involvement with the Boys & Girls Club of Bloomington. For this, Vivian Galligan, her nominator, thanks her.

John Sanderson - Musical Arts Youth Orchestra

John has been volunteering during the 2004-2005 years as a chamber music coach for the Orchestra, working with younger, less experienced violinists. John himself is a budding virtuoso with a busy practice schedule who comes all the way from Morgantown to provide this weekly

children and her knowledge of softball to benefit local youth with disabilities. Since then, Sine has volunteered for over a dozen one day events, and is currently signed up for others. Kim Ecenbarger, her nominator, writes "She has been one of our most consistent and compassionate volunteers. We are incredibly grateful for Sine's ongoing involvement and proud to have her represent our Department."

Lindsey Mederich - *Bloomington Hospitality House*

Lindsey is an undergraduate psychology student at Indiana University. Her nominator, Brooke Greene writes, "She began volunteering at Hospitality House in September 2004 as part of a service learning class and has since become an integral part of our team. She has worked directly with us since August in the capacity of volunteer coordinator as an Advocate for Community Engagement (ACE). She coordinates orientations, training, and scheduling for our student volunteer program through I.U. She is very passionate and committed to service and excellence."

Nan Morrow - *The Franklin Initiative*

Under Nan's leadership, the I.U. Credit Union partnered with Aurora Alternative High School, Bloomington High Schools South and North, Edgewood High School and Eastern-Greene High School, to present a financial education program through the National Endowment for Financial Education. This pairs I.U.C.U. employee volunteers with classes. Her nominator, Erica De Santis believes it is essential that all young adults have a solid understanding and appreciation for personal finance. Hundreds of youth in and around Monroe County have benefitted because of Nan's passion and persistence.

Bob Muldoon - *Shalom Community Center*

Nominator Joe Castle states "Bob has been coming to Shalom Community Center since it opened 5 years ago, each Thursday for at least 5 hours. When Bob is not working with the guests he is helping in our kitchen after both breakfast and lunch. Bob has a real compassion for those in need and is dedicated to his work to help guests at the Shalom Center."

Lee Murphy - *Bloomington Hospitality House*

Lee is a sophomore pre-medical undergraduate student at Indiana University and has volunteered with the Recreational Therapy Department at Hospitality House since September 2004. His nominator, Lindsey Mederich writes "Lee's role at Hospitality House is a crucial one. He knows most of our residents by name and can bring a smile to the grumpiest faces. He puts the needs of the organization ahead of his own, is always thinking of new ways to improve the quality of life of our residents, and his presence in the recreation therapy department significantly reduces the workload and lifts the spirits of our staff members."

Cindy Hosea - *PALS (People & Animal Learning Services)*

Cindy has been a volunteer special event planner and fundraiser for PALS for about a year, regularly volunteering 5 to 10 hours per week. During that year, Cindy has made a difference to over 700 people. This includes other volunteers, riders, caregivers, and health professionals. Cindy's creativity and energy has helped PALS to grow, increasing the number of people served. Holly Cedar, Cindy's nominator, praises and thanks her for dedication and enthusiasm.

Tina Irvine - *Middle Way House*

Tina is a high school student who has been volunteering at Middle Way House for the last year, for approximately 27 hours per month. Tina has a strong work ethic with an extremely broad range of skills. She is bright, cheerful and always willing to help. "We've always gotten compliments on her good work and more than one person has admitted an envy of our having such a volunteer, strong in so many skills" states Patricia Cummings, Tina's nominator. "Tina's dedication to the cause of working with victims of domestic violence is a wonderful testament to the ability of today's youth to empathize and make a difference in our tomorrows."

Marjorie Johnson - *Monroe County Humane Association*

Marjorie Johnson has been volunteering at the Association for the past two years, volunteering from 10 to 20 hours per month. Her role is the acknowledgement of all donations. Without fail, each week she is in the office writing letters, checking addresses, and making sure that all of the friends of the MCHA know how much their support means to the organization. "Marjorie has weathered the changes that a growing and changing organization faces with dedication, perseverance, and most of all a smile and a word of support to anyone who needs one." states Sarah DeLone, Marjorie's nominator.

Muff Johnson - *Bloomington Animal Care & Control*

Muff Johnson, co host of "Pets Without Partners", wears many hats as a volunteer. Not only does she co-host, she volunteers as an Adoption Counselor and is also a Foster Guardian for shelter pets in need of temporary homes. Muff has been spending her time volunteering at BACC for the past 14 years. Her nominator, Kathy Obrakta, writes "She makes people feel welcome. She is a tremendous asset to the shelter and to the community."

Sonja Johnson - *Bloomington Playwrights Project (BPP)*

Sonja is the full-time volunteer Development Director of the BPP and has been an active volunteer there for the past 4 years. She prepares grant applications and develops relationships with individuals and businesses to garner the support and funding which BPP needs. She also does the payroll and accounting, organizes receptions and helps out with cleaning and painting. In the words of her nominator, Rachael Himsel, "Sonja has worked to put the BPP in the black. She is not only a vol-

unteer Development Director, but also a kind, genuine and generous woman - and a perfect example of a volunteer - using not just her heart and hands, but her complete self to make a difference in her community, and in the hearts of so many."

Helene Jones - *Monroe County Humane Association*

Helene's dedication and hard work at the Association have been going strong for the past fourteen years. She works approximately 70 hours per month doing various duties ranging from picking up mail to preparing reports and acknowledging donations. She has done just about every job there is to do at MCHA and does it well! The work Helene has done over the years to spread the vision of "promoting respect and responsibility for all animals" has impacted thousands of lives both human and animal alike. Sarah DeLone, who nominated Helen, feels that the organization would not be where it is today without the time and effort she gives.

Karla Kamstra - *Pets ALIVE*

Nominator Susan Dabkowski states "Karla has been the heart and soul of Pets ALIVE since its inception 3 years ago." Karla diligently researched, met with government officials, and sought out successful programs that would help bring Pets ALIVE to reality. In December of 2002, Karla took the lead and Pets ALIVE became an official 501©3 non-profit organization, complete with a Board of Directors and the mission "to lower euthanasia rates and increase adoption of homeless animals." For the last 3 years Karla has dedicated her life to being a strong voice and advocate for animals. "It isn't just what she does; it's who she has become."

Kat Killion - *National Honor Society, Edgewood Chapter*

Kat is an Edgewood High School senior who leads the way when it comes to service and dedication. As president of Key Club, she initiates service projects and helps fellow students in meeting goals. She is currently initiating a Big Brother/Big Sister project with K-Kids. Outside of school, Kat is a Girl Scout and steps up regularly to host special events such as "Leader & Daughter Overnight". Mrs. Sharon Roualet, Kat's nominator, has noticed many traits that set Kat apart, such as persistence, proven record of service and leadership.

Jeanne Leimkuhler - *Center for Sustainable Living*

Jeanne has been with the Center for six years. She and her husband Joe Davis became involved because of their passion for natural building. They started the Natural Building Group, which has approximately thirty participants. She coordinates meetings, field trips and working groups that help other people who are interested in building using these alternative methods. The Natural Building Group worked with Habitat for Humanity to construct the first straw bale home in the City of Bloomington. Her nominator, Lucille Bertuccio, writes that she would like the larger community to recognize Jeanne's dedication and multiple talents.

Veronica Lenard - *RSVP, Employment Program*

Veronica has been a life long volunteer, serving with the Community Service Council, League of Women Voters, Citizens for Jail Improvement, and the Community Action Program since moving to Bloomington in 1966. Since 2003, Veronica has been volunteering with the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. She has an infinite capacity to listen and her quiet confidence and positive outlook make a sure fire combination for success. In the last two years, she has served above and beyond the call of duty, giving over 200 hours of her time and counseling over 40 individuals, states Norman Horrar, nominator. She is to be congratulated for her devotion and life work.

Jim Mahan - *Buskirk-Chumley Theater*

Jim has been volunteering at the Buskirk-Chumley Theater for over two years. "He is dedicated and always willing to help when needed. He is a warm, welcoming familiar face to our regular visitors. Every single person who walked through the door for the Golden Age of Hollywood films, many Lotus events, the Hoagy Carmichael Festival and countless other shows was welcomed by Jim Mahan. Without Jim, I would be at a loss as Volunteer Coordinator", states Sarah Enelow, nominator. "Having a front-of-house staff is integral to a theater's image and ultimate success, and I am proud to have Jim at our entrance."

Catherine Marchese - *Musical Arts Youth Orchestra*

Catherine, a teacher at University Elementary, has been volunteering her time as a bassoon coach with the Orchestra for the past two years. She has attended all weekly rehearsals and has assisted the bassoon players with their concerts. "As a coach, as a teacher, and as a musician, Catherine Marchese gives her all, all the time," states her nominator, Julia Copeland. "She is never less than totally engaged and totally professional, and her dedication to the young musicians' best interests is evident in everything she does with the group."

Kennedy Marshall - *Shalom Community Center*

Kennedy has been a dedicated clerical volunteer for Shalom for the past year, volunteering about 5 hours a day, 5 days per week. Kennedy is pleasant to work with and is eager to help anyone who is in need of assistance. She shows initiative and makes suggestions on how to do the job more effectively. She has studied on her own to learn the volunteer orientation process and implemented a welcome letter for all new volunteers as well as other office communication. Joe Castle, her nominator, states that Volunteer Coordinator Pam Kinnaman has come to view Kennedy as more of a partner than a volunteer.

Sine McMunn - *City of Bloomington Parks & Recreation Dept.*

In what little free time that she has, Sine volunteers in the community. Within the Parks Department, she started off volunteering for Buddyball. She utilized her passion for working with